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June 24, 2022

**JUN 27 2022**

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Dear Chairman Rubin and Chairwoman Cook,

As you may recall, Councilwoman Cook read prepared questions at the June 7, 2022 Special City Council meeting. While the interrogation appears to be political in nature, the implied allegations may have needlessly planted a sense of distrust with our constituents that warrant an adequate response.

Although the City Council Chair called for responses to the questions, both Councils are impacted. Further, the ordinances referenced by City Councilwoman Cook are Parish Ordinances, Joint Ordinances, and City Ordinances. This inquiry is very clearly a City-Parish matter.


Since the questions are both financial and legal in nature, the responses should come from a qualified, independent party. For the sake of transparency, an independent audit is the best solution to answering these questions to remove any and all doubt of the legitimacy of the final responses.

Additionally, the time required to respond will be extraordinary for Lafayette Consolidated Government's employees during an already incredibly busy time. As you know, we are in the midst of preparing the executive budget in order to meet the Councils' published timelines. The staff required to compile these responses are already working well beyond the regular work hours. The auditor is accustomed to extracting the information and data needed, with minimal time and disruption to regular operations.

Therefore, I respectfully ask that you call for a Special Joint Meeting of the Parish and City Councils on July 5 to introduce a budget amendment for a special audit of these matters by the Councils' designated auditor, Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC. The auditor has been contacted and has confirmed that the firm can prepare a set of agreed upon procedures to address the questions at hand. If your Council staff needs assistance in preparing a budget amendment for the Special Joint Meeting, our Finance and Management Department can help. Just let me or the CAO know.

I look forward to working with you to put this matter behind us.

Warm regards,



Josh